

RURAL RECONSTRUCTION IN INDIA

AN OUTLINE OF A SCHEME

BY

SIR M. VISVESVARAYA, K.C.I.E.



1931

CONTENTS

	Page
Prefatory Note	v
Introductory	1
Object of the Scheme	2
Village Improvement Association and Council	5
Village Unit	6
Uplift Work in Isolated Villages and Hamlets	8
Statistics of Production and Income	9
Ways of Increasing Production and Income	11
Profiting by Comparison	13
Improving the Working Capacity of the Villager	14
Relations with other Local Organizations and with Government	18
Inauguration of the Scheme	21
Summary and Conclusion	23
Tabular Statements.	
I. Family Income Register	
II. Village Income Register	
III. Progress Register	

PREFATORY NOTE

The scheme outlined in this brochure has for its object the raising of the income of the Indian villager and the reconstruction of his earning power and industrial life.

The village population has been growing without a proportionate increase in production or income. The average villager has a pitifully low standard of comfort and, indeed, has already "squeezed and sifted life's necessities to the vanishing point". He is abnormally sensitive to the effects of poor harvests and his apathy and pathetic content have long been objects of commiseration.

To effect any real improvement in his condition, a radical reconstruction is called for. Whatever is attempted in this direction should be based on world experience, should be in conformity with modern methods of organization, and, above all, should teach the villager self-reliance and value of initiative. The scheme put forward has these aims.

Under modern conditions single individuals are unable to help themselves. To achieve any real good, a comprehensive scheme involving

corporate action is necessary. It is suggested either that the scheme herein outlined be accepted and put into practice or that the unsatisfactory rural conditions described should be taken as a call for responsible public leaders in every Province and State to come together and devise and set in motion an alternative improvement scheme of their own, comprehensive enough to rouse the rural population to get a real march forward.

The scheme does not claim to be the last word on the subject. But what is claimed for it is that it is as simple and intelligible as it could be made, that it is as nearly practical as any scheme of the kind can be expected to be, that in essentials it has been successfully worked elsewhere and that it is capable of application, with equal chances of success, to a single village or village group by a local movement, as to a whole State or Province on a mass-movement scale.

The proposals are based on experience gained over a dozen years of close acquaintance with village life in the irrigated tracts of the Bombay Presidency and of several years of administrative work in the State of Mysore in which the working of a village improvement scheme was a special feature. The information regarding village uplift work in Japan was gathered in two visits to that country, in the second of

which special attention was paid to the study of village life including visits to model villages.

More than a million workers in Britain's industrial army—men and women, boys and girls—are crowding into the technical schools to seek a fresh start in life and wider opportunities. Displaced from their industries by the swiftly changing needs of the modern world, many of them are training to master new jobs, and meet the new needs that are springing up. A silent educational revolution is sweeping the country but no one notices it until he sees the figures.

This statement which first appeared in a London Paper a few weeks ago indicates the spirit in which a go-ahead people will act at a time of difficulty and diminishing incomes. It is in a similar spirit that the present unsatisfactory rural economic conditions in India should be met.

If the scheme is attempted at once wherever the path is clear for its application and persevered in, a beginning will have been made in the correct solution of one of the fundamental problems with which the country is faced.

M. V.

RURAL RECONSTRUCTION IN INDIA

Introductory

There are many phases of rural uplift work clamouring for attention but the scheme suggested in this brochure concentrates attention on two aspects only—and these not the least important—namely, increase of production and improvement in the working efficiency of the villager.

The scheme is adapted from a similar organization found in actual operation in parts of Japan where, under Government encouragement, a large measure of success has been achieved. Records of villages exist in that country which, under the operation of such a scheme, have increased their income five-fold or more in the course of twenty years. Progress under the scheme is measured from year to year by the gross earnings of the village population and schedules are prepared which enable single families, as well as the village population collectively, to think in figures, and to provide themselves with the means of measuring their progress in comparison with their own past as well as with other neighbouring villages.

Agriculture is conducted in Japan on the principle of family management on a small scale and it plays the same important role as in India. The same handicaps, also, operate in both countries, namely, the small size of the holding, over-population and indebtedness, but in India there is in addition illiteracy which has deepened the impoverishment of the rural communities.

The rural population is at present the least able to help itself and on account of its overwhelming numbers, even a small improvement in its condition will mean a great gain to the country at large. The betterment of this population has become without question one of the most outstanding problems of our time. The great growth of population revealed by the recent Census is a warning that the occasion demands a more vigorous programme of agricultural reform than any attempted in the past, necessitating large organizations and strong popular support for its success.

Object of the Scheme

According to the latest Census, India contains no less than 350 million inhabitants or about one-fifth of the entire population of the globe. The recorded figures show that 9 per cent. of this population is literate, 90 per cent. of it resides in rural areas and 73 per cent. earns its living from agriculture. The country is undeveloped

in the modern sense; the population, though growing rapidly, continues to be predominantly rural. Whether due to the peculiar seasonal conditions, or because the country is not organized for the production of wealth, about one-fourth of the entire population, although capable of working, remains idle for the greater part of the year, and among the remaining number also there is an alarming amount of short employment. The result is, small output of work, disproportionately small production, low earning power, and poverty beyond any knowledge which Western nations have of it.

Of late years problems affecting the rural population are attracting attention and in many quarters a genuine interest is being evinced to improve the lot of the villager. Public-spirited citizens, Government officials, university professors, graduate volunteers and others are carrying on village surveys. A certain amount of statistical and other information has been gathered and illuminating reports have been written about village social and economic life. But action of a definite kind has been overdue for some time now. It is true, in a few places, particularly in the Punjab and in the Bombay Deccan, actual reconstruction of village life has also been attempted. But most of the work done has been of the nature of investigation. The disease has been diagnosed but it has not been

found easy to devise effective remedies. This is due to the inherent difficulties of the problem, and to the population being illiterate and lacking in initiative and power of co-operation. Some of the remedies suggested have been very elaborate, and for that reason they are not such as to promise appreciable results within a reasonable time. It is therefore thought necessary to sacrifice thoroughness, to some extent, if thereby the chances of introducing a workable scheme could be improved.

In what follows a rural improvement scheme suited to local conditions is outlined. The scheme aims at increasing income in villages by increasing production from agriculture, by extending subsidiary occupations and industries and by increasing the hours and output of work as practised by the village communities. It aims at progress by laying emphasis on production, in other words, by appealing to the self-interest of the villager. It attempts, at the same time, at increasing the working efficiency of the villager, by initiating a system of home discipline, by providing for vocational or occupational training and by extending educational facilities as widely as local resources might permit. While external aid is fully availed of, its primary object is to give full play to the villager's capacity for self-reliance and self-expression.

Village Improvement Association and Council

To give the reader some idea of the agency required and the methods that will have to be followed in introducing the proposed scheme, it might be useful to describe the organization witnessed in one of the model villages of Japan. The village in question had an association consisting of the headmen of families in the area, or house-masters as they were locally called, for the purpose of increasing production and occupations and its material prosperity generally. This Association met twice a year in Conference. At these Conferences, questions pertaining to the wants and desires of the village in respect of production and occupations, and to the funds and measures required to promote both, were considered and discussed and, with the assistance of the Council of the Association, a programme of work and budget of expenditure was drawn up. Enquiries showed that the expenditure was met by contributions from the members of the Association (i.e., headmen of families), every farmer's family paying its share according to its estimated income or earning capacity.

The Conference carefully examined every measure suggested with a view to increasing production and income, whether from agriculture, subsidiary occupations, industries or service. Experienced leaders and business-men, who had studied rural problems, were invited from the

neighbouring cities to advise the people how occupations might be multiplied, production increased and the prosperity of the village promoted. Lectures were delivered, discussions, fairs and exhibitions held, and the Conference was wound up by a visit to the village Shinto temple, where divine blessings were invoked on the undertakings initiated by the Association.

The Village Council with its elected Chairman, who is usually the village chief, and Vice-Chairman, who generally is the school-master, constituted the executive body of the Association. It usually met once a month to give practical effect to the policies and programmes of the half-yearly Conferences. This was attempted by distributing the work to be done among the village headmen and enlisting their close co-operation and also seeking advice and help, from persons of light and leading outside the village, whenever needed.

A similar Association with an executive committee and headman can be brought into existence, to serve the same purposes, with similar results, in any Indian village, or group of villages, whether situated in a British Province or in an Indian-State.

Village Unit

According to the 1921 Census, the average population of an Indian village is about 418

persons.* Taking 4.9 persons per family, such a village should contain about 85 families. A village of this size will not have sufficient resources in men or money to carry on the work of the Village Improvement Association. But if the village contains, say, 500 families or more, it may be expected to provide the resources needed to work the scheme. Otherwise, in order to find the requisite number of qualified literate men and adequate funds for the purpose, it will be necessary to form a circle of, say, 4 to 6 villages into a Union (if the villages are of the size of the average Indian village mentioned) and to make the central village in the circle its head-quarters.

A similar measure was adopted in Japan in order to render village administration efficient. Formerly there were 70,000 distinct villages and hamlets in that country. That number is still there, but by grouping them for administrative purposes in the manner explained, the number of rural administrative units has been brought down to about 12,000.

Where a number of villages or hamlets are grouped together in this way, the Central Council appoints separate local representatives for each

* The average population of a village for India as a whole is 418 persons; that of a village in the Bombay Presidency is 562; in the Madras Presidency 710; in the Bengal Presidency 512; and in the Indian State of Mysore 309.

village or hamlet to carry on the duties with the aid of the executive staff of the Association.

The house or family is the unit recognized in Japan for the purpose of estimating the produce and income and for supplying the funds needed to maintain the staff and activities of the Association. The same unit will be most appropriate for the conditions of India. The headman of each family, or any member of the family who administers its affairs, should, as in Japan, be held responsible by the Association and by public opinion, for contributing the family's fair share of the work and expenses of the Village Improvement Association.

Uplift Work in Isolated Villages and Hamlets

Although in the great majority of cases it will be necessary to adopt the village union system just described, yet the scheme can be introduced into, and worked in, any individual village or hamlet, however small. But in such cases, it is necessary that the responsibility for working the scheme should be shouldered by an influential *inamdar*, headman or leader, who understands the scheme and who, at the same time, enjoys the confidence of the people of the village and has sufficient strength of purpose to persevere until substantial results are achieved.

Statistics of Production and Income

The improvement in earning power or the well-being of a farmer's family, or of a village as a whole, from year to year, should be gauged by the increase in his or its income, which again should be regularly estimated or valued. The income of a farmer's family will depend on the nature and variety of the occupations pursued by himself and the members of his household. It usually falls under three heads :—

- (1) Agricultural produce,
- (2) Products of subsidiary occupations and minor industries, and
- (3) Income from labour or service : all other miscellaneous incomes.

Under each of these heads, particulars should be given of the quantities or amounts and values of the products, services, etc., as far as available, though values should be given in every case. The Family Income Register (*vide* Table I) should be filled in by the headman of the family himself or by a house-to-house enquiry conducted by an official of the Association.

The income may consist of the produce of the fields cultivated by the family, the products of home industries and occupations, the proceeds of sale of milk and milk products and vegetables and other sundry produce, money earned by plying carts for hire, wages of labour or

service rendered to people within or outside the village, and other sources. Income from investments, remittances from family members residing abroad and every other source should be similarly ascertained and brought into account in the Family Income Register (Table I).

The amount of income earned from every source is totalled up for each family and the aggregate income of the village is then obtained by adding together the incomes of all the families. From this total should be deducted the value of services rendered to people residing within the village. The net total arrived at in this way will represent, as near as can be, the gross income of the village. This should be recorded in the Village Income Register (see Table II).

This table is intended to register in reasonable detail the quantities and values of each of the principal crops, products and services which, in their aggregate, will represent the entire production and income of the village during the year. The total quantity of any particular commodity produced in it in any year will thus be available for comparison with corresponding production in subsequent years.

The figure representing the village income in rupees, divided by the number of families, will give the average income per family; the same

figure divided by the number of persons in the village, will represent the average income per head of the village population. These results should be also exhibited in Table II.

To serve the purpose of a ready test, especially as to whether the village is *gaining or losing in production and prosperity*, the total income should be recorded from year to year for a series of years in the Progress Register (Table III). This table is also designed to include statistics of progress in education, culture and discipline as explained below.

The officials of the Village Association should prepare these tables under outside or expert supervision for a few years. The headman of each family should be induced to prepare the Family Income Register (Table I) himself, if he can, with the aid of the officials of the Village Improvement Association. Otherwise, it should be prepared by the officials themselves from year to year, where necessary, with the help of persons in the confidence of the family, and the results embodied in Table II. Tables II and III should be preserved as a permanent record in the Village Office and copies of the same exhibited in the village hall (or *chavdi*) for public information.

Ways of Increasing Production and Income

The Village Association should carry on propaganda to educate the people in rural economics.

When the villagers begin to realize the significance of the figures given in the Tables, they may be expected to change their present wholly conservative outlook and try new ways of increasing production and income, and economising expenditure.

Production from agriculture may be increased by increasing the area cultivated ; by extending irrigation from tanks, canals and wells ; by consolidating holdings ; by providing special credit facilities ; by growing more profitable crops, such as commercial and fruit crops ; by using better seed and manure, including where necessary green manure ; by removing insect pests ; and generally by practising scientific methods and co-operative principle both in cultivation and finance.

The subsidiary occupations and minor industries that may be encouraged are hand-spinning and weaving, silk reeling, carpentry, smithing, leather work, pottery, brick and tile making, carpets, mat, basket and rope manufacture, livestock improvement, fishing and the like. Besides these age-old known industries, the newer home industries practised abroad which are more profitable and which require a knowledge of science and special skill should be introduced, gradually or rapidly, according to the diligence and enterprise shown by the village community concerned.

Under labour and service will come hiring tools and machinery, farm and domestic service, plying carts for hire, collection and sale of manure and fuel and such other pursuits.

When the economic implications of rural occupations are better understood, the farmers might be expected to start on a career of reform. They may learn to produce, locally, as far as they can, the greater part of the commodities they consume and to manufacture finished products for sale. They may learn to reduce the cost of farm operations by sharing the use of each other's bullocks, farm tools, and personal labour on the co-operative principle. They will also learn to diversify the industries and occupations, according to the special resources and conditions of each locality, instead of carrying on the same on a monotonous scale for every village group or unit.

Profiting by Comparison

The data thus collected may be compiled also into charts or graphs in a form which may carry conviction to the villager, and hung up in the village hall or office as is done in the villages of Japan. Records of the kind exhibited in Tables II and III would indicate to the intelligent villager at what rates the production and income of his village have varied in the past and what causes have contributed to such

variation. The longer the period for which the records are maintained, the clearer will be the past history of the village in material prosperity. In some Japanese villages such records are available for 25 years or more, showing the importance which the practical Japanese nation attached, early in their career of reform, to the measures calculated to promote the economic well-being of its rural population.

By comparing the results from year to year in this way and the same with those of their neighbours, the people of the village will know, not only at what rate they have progressed with reference to their own past but also how they are faring relatively to other villages. The knowledge, thus derived, would create a spirit of healthy rivalry and enterprise among them, to put their opportunities, capacity and resources to the fullest use.

Improving the Working Capacity of the Villager

The adult persons of a village will become efficient working and earning members of their respective families if they are instructed in the 3 R's and taught habits of steady work, industry and thrift. These habits should be inculcated by means of school lessons, other forms of propaganda and lectures. The responsibility for this would rest jointly on the Government agencies in control of education and on the

headmen of families, immediately concerned, who would be the persons to benefit most by maintaining a high level of working efficiency among the members of their households. The Village Improvement Association should maintain the necessary propaganda to ensure that heads of families take active steps and do their duty faithfully by the village in this respect.

The first measure needed in this connection is *home discipline* to train the body, the mind and the character of the villager and to educate him in practices of self-reliance and self-help. The requisite training would fall mainly under the three following heads :—

1. Every adult member of the family should be induced to work for about 8 hours a day and 6 days in the week. The task and hours of work may be varied according to age, state of health, working capacity of each member and the time of the year. When the work is light, the hours may be longer. In the busy season, the agriculturist has to work from early dawn till late in the evening or, as is said in Japan, from star to star. If only the farm population acquires the habit of a regular 8 hours gainful occupation in the slack season, that single acquisition alone may prove the salvation of the community.

2. Every member of the family should be instructed to cultivate the saving habit so that the family may at no time fall into debt for unproductive expenditure. Experience shows that it is easy to earn a rupee—hard to save one. The ignorant villager is badly in need of lessons in thrift as he is often so improvident as to barter away even his land—his only source of livelihood—to meet the expenses of a social function, like a marriage or a funeral.

3. The qualities of frankness and trustfulness should be specially fostered so as to remove the prevailing distrust, and apathy born of distrust, and to promote teamwork and brotherliness between neighbours. At harvest time and in emergencies, the cultivators do help one another even now, but a closer and more deliberately planned co-operation in many more fields of endeavour, bringing manifold benefits with it, is possible, and it can only come by special instruction, exhortation and example.

A second measure necessary to increase the number of earning members in village families is to make provision for the giving of manual and business training, and instruction in some trade, occupation or profession. Now-a-days innumerable subjects come under the dominion of training. Vocational training has been a neglected feature

of Indian life everywhere hitherto and special provision will have to be made by the Village Improvement Association and the Government jointly to meet this need in future. In this connection it may be mentioned that the village population in Japan is placed in close touch with model farms and agricultural machinery. Agricultural courses are given in the villages in classes which are held at night time except in the busy season. Village industries are encouraged by subventions from the Village Council, the District, Prefecture or the State according to circumstances.

A third measure is education. Although treated as a subsidiary measure in connection with the uplift scheme, yet it must be recognized that education is the root of all progress. Government maintain educational institutions to a certain extent and the Village Improvement Association should add to the facilities when and where it can. In the Japanese villages, nearly 60 per cent. of the local taxes is spent on educational institutions in the village itself.

It is not proposed to enter into the details of these measures beyond stating that every effort should be made to increase facilities by providing night classes, reading rooms, travelling schools, weekly or other village meetings and classes and societies and clubs for professional training. At

a later stage radios, cinemas and lectures by broadcasting may come in. Adult classes should be specially encouraged as a speedy means of spreading literacy. The responsibility for extending education and training to prepare men and women for industrial and business careers rests on every one concerned, Government departments, Village Improvement Associations of the kind referred to above, and philanthropists and public-spirited citizens.

A record of the progress achieved in family discipline, occupational training and general education may be included in the Progress Register of Income and Education already mentioned (see Table III).

Relations with other Local Organizations and with Government

The main thing to secure under this scheme is *increase of income*. If this is assured, the people will be better able to provide for all village services and amenities. The Village Improvement Association should accordingly confine its attention to problems and activities connected with *production and income* and to the training needed for that purpose. The ordinary administrative functions of the village should be left to the existing official agencies and kept quite distinct. If it is thought that any of the other village services such as road

maintenance, conservancy or water-supply should also be entrusted to local unions or self-governing bodies, other rural voluntary associations or committees may be separately formed for the purpose as is the common practice in Japan. In every village in parts of Japan, there is an education society, a young men's association, a girls' society, an agricultural association and an industrial association of some kind or other. In some villages there are also an irrigation association, a credit association, selling association, producing association, purchasers' guild, and so on. Army people when they return to their village usually form an association of their own for local military men.

In India similar associations may be formed, wherever needed, if there is sufficient local enterprise for the purpose, but the duties of the Village Improvement Association proposed should not on any account be enlarged to embrace such services.

Under the Japanese law, Village Unions may be formed voluntarily for any joint purpose and they are made to function through elected councils. The Village Improvement Association referred to in this note presumably comes under this category. The suggested Village Improvement Association in India may include in its working agency the officials of the Village

Government also, but the Association, to be successful, should be built up and maintained by the voluntary effort of the people themselves. It should receive every help, advice and encouragement from Government but should function *independently*, that is, be as little dependent as possible on official initiative. But with liberal encouragement from Government, such a scheme can go forward on a mass-movement scale.

It may be of interest to state in this connection that Village Government in Japan, which consists of a Village Council of 8 to 12 persons chosen by the people themselves, has wide discretionary powers. The office of headman is usually honorary and he is elected by the Council. District officials, such as, Inspectors of Agriculture, Industries and Sanitation, working under the Prefectural Governors, visit the rural areas from time to time to *advise* the village officials in the execution of their duties. The Village Council collects the State as well as local taxes and has control of roads, elementary education, registration, conscription, water-supply, sanitation and other services.

When the Provincial Governments in India become autonomous, as they are shortly expected to do, the very first step to be taken in the interests of the rural population should be to

grant self-government to villages in a liberal measure similar to that functioning in Japan. Self-governing villages would soon create a much-needed spirit of self-help and constructive effort among the local population leading to healthy developments in every sphere of activity, —economic, social, cultural, recreational and the like.

Inauguration of the Scheme

Some of the model villages in Japan owe their business success and prosperity to the exertions of leading citizens who took up village uplift work as a matter of patriotic public duty. These men organized village associations, prepared improvement schemes and rules for operating them, and watched the progress of the schemes from stage to stage till the village folk acquired sufficient experience and enthusiasm to carry on the duties themselves without outside help.

In this country also the guidance and help of such leaders—public-spirited men, *inamdars*, local headmen and business-men—will be needed for the introduction of the scheme at the commencement. For each individual village or village group to begin with, the services of such a leader who understands the general principles and full implications of the scheme will be invaluable. The scheme affords an opportunity to leaders who have a passion to serve the people, and there are

many such now-a-days. After some experience one such leader will be able to guide the movement over a dozen or more units with the aid of volunteers. If the movement extends, arrangements may be made to give a six-months' training to volunteers in an institution specially started for the purpose. In course of time men, fired with missionary zeal and competent to serve as volunteers, will come forward from the local areas themselves and the neighbouring Taluka towns. Under the scheme, young men who start work as volunteers may begin work with a bare allowance, just sufficient to cover their maintenance, and may be expected later to create for themselves and the population around new sources of profitable employment on village agriculture and industries. The need to harness literate young men to rural work is admittedly great. The Universities of India are making available young men of discipline and culture in large numbers and it seems justifiable to use them to a reasonable extent on betterment work in the rural areas of the country.

If the subject is taken up on a mass-movement scale with the support of Government, there should be a Central Advisory Association and Council consisting of members of the provincial legislature, Government officials, leading agriculturists and business-men, established at the headquarters of every Province or State, to guide

the movement. Such a Council will be also able, with the help of this movement, to establish new industries and occupations and reduce unemployment in the country.

Summary and Conclusion

The primary object of the scheme adumbrated above is in the first instance to increase production and income in villages and next to make a better worker and citizen of the villager. The agency to work the scheme will be the Village Improvement Association consisting of heads or principal members of families residing in the village or villages comprising the unit (or circle). The executive work of the Association will be attended to by a Council of 7 to 12 members and a head-man elected by the Association. One or more literate men, chosen where possible from the village itself, will be utilized for the clerical duties of the Association. The village unit will consist of one large village or a group (or circle) of several small villages, so chosen as to contain a sufficient number of families (usually not less than 500) and so constituted as to be capable of providing the necessary staff and activities of the Village Improvement Association from its own resources. Single villages and hamlets may also be brought under the operation of the scheme with appropriate variations in procedure, to attain the same objects, but in that case the uplift work

should be under the direction of an influential citizen or agency in whom the villagers concerned are willing to confide. The Association will meet in Conference twice a year, or oftener when necessary, to consider and put into practice the various measures needed for increasing production and income. At these Conferences, the provision of facilities for elementary education, occupational training, lectures and other forms of propaganda to foster home discipline, will all come under review. The Council will prepare three Abstract Registers or Tables (see tabular statements appended) to record each year's work. Two of these, namely, Tables II and III, will be posted in the Village Chavdi or Office. These will furnish a much-needed record of the economic and cultural progress of the village, or village unit, from year to year.

Such in brief are the principal features of the scheme. It is not claimed that the scheme is logically perfect. Gross income is taken as the test of progress, though the real test should be the net income, if it could be ascertained by a study of the receipts, expenditure, indebtedness and other special features of village social-life. Net income may also be shown in the Tables wherever there is sufficient enterprise to make the necessary calculations and arrive at fairly reliable figures. Valuation of property is

another test. But experience has shown that where calculations of this nature are attempted, the problem becomes too abstruse and, for all practical purposes, insoluble. Gross income would give a rough idea of the growth or decline in prosperity and for the present this single test should suffice. To attempt further refinements would be to court failure.

Increase of production is proposed because that was what every country in Europe attempted while in straitened circumstances after the War. Discipline and vocational training are urged because their equipment, so necessary for material success, has never had a fair chance till now. Stress is laid on education because it is an indispensable instrument for progress of every kind. And organization on modern lines is advocated since nothing great or enduring can be accomplished without it. The Tables serve as a yard-stick for valuing income and measuring its growth from year to year.

It would be easy to visualise the scheme by remembering that it consists in substance in accounting for *three* sources of income and providing for *three* classes of training for the villager; and in the preparation of *three* Tabular statements at the close of the year to give a record or picture of the material condition of the village or village unit.

The scheme is put forward in a concrete shape, and every phase of it is clearly defined to admit of easy adoption and speedy practical action. Where any part of it is found difficult to grasp or practise, a trial should be given all the same, and the difficulties will be found to diminish gradually by repetition and familiarity.

Government encouragement would always be necessary for a wealth-producing progressive scheme of this nature. If it is given in the current spirit of encouraging self-help and self-improvement among the people, it will be easy to work the scheme on a mass-movement scale. So worked, it will be possible to develop a fervour for reform, even among the illiterate and the ignorant, which cannot fail to bring with it in a decade or so, benefits that under existing conditions might take half-a-century or more.



TABULAR STATEMENTS

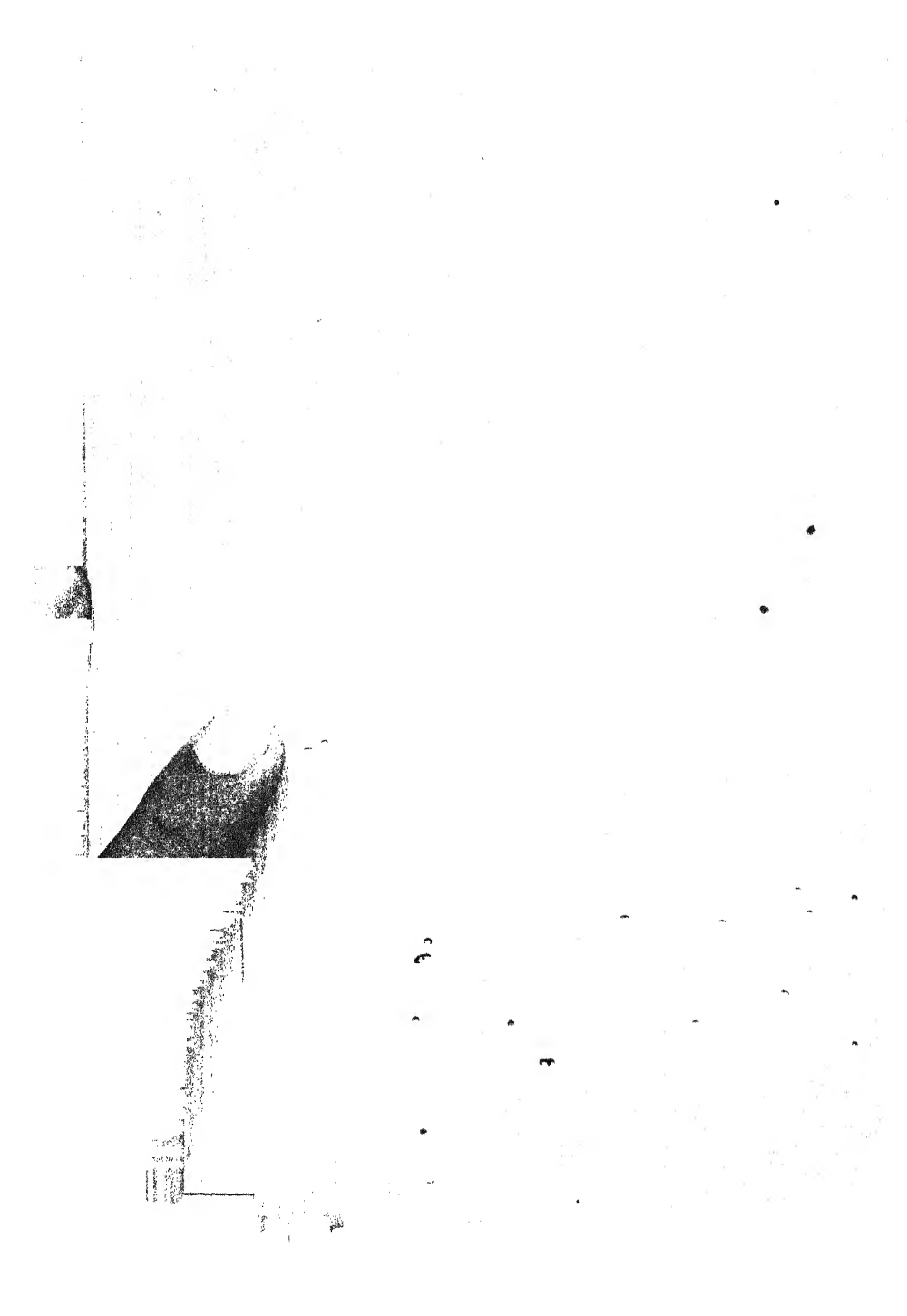


TABLE I.

Family Income Register.

.....Village.....Taluk.....District for the year.....

Number of Family .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
Name of Head of Family.. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
Number of persons in the Family—					
Men .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2
Women .. .. .	..	..	..	..	4
Children—					
Boys .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2
Girls .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1
Total .. .. .	..	..	..	..	9

Name of Product or Source of Income					Quantity	Value	Remarks
					Mds.	Rs.	
1. Agricultural Produce—							
Jowar .. .. .	..	..	..	..	33	204	Average per family = Rs. 72.
Bajri .. .. .	..	..	..	..	14	14	
Wheat .. .. .	..	..	..	..	10	50	
Cotton .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	40	
Kadhi (fodder) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	80	
All other Produce .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Products of subsidiary occupations and minor Industries .. .. .					..	120	
3. Service : Other Miscellaneous Income—							
(1). Earnings from outside the village .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	84	
(2) Earnings from within the village .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	5	
Total Income .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	652	

Note.—The figures in this schedule are taken from an actual survey of a village in the Bombay Deccan.

TABLE II.

Village Income Register.

.....Village.....Taluk.....District for the year 1929-30.

Area 2,018 Acres (of which 134 are uncultivated).

Number of Families 103

Population—

Men 159

Women 148

Children 224

Total 531

Item.	Name of Products, etc.	Quantity	Value	Remarks.
1	<i>Agricultural Produce—</i>	Mds.	Rs.	Rs.
	1. Cotton	5,724	29,812	Total Income— 58,812
	2. Jawar	9,264	17,370	Average income
	3. Wheat	504	1,766	per family— 571
	4. Lang	2,912	3,368	Average income
	5. Tur	72	198	per head of
	6. Rice	96	144	population— 141
	7. Wal	132	330	
	8. Tal	132	1,708	
	9. Miscellaneous Cereals	12	42	
	10. Grass	1,63,000 bundles.	4,050	
2	<i>Income from subsidiary occupations and Industries.</i> (Details to be entered here.)			
3	<i>Service: Other Miscellaneous Income—</i> Earnings from labour, carts, etc., supplied to people outside the village. (Details to be entered here.)			
	Total Income		58,812	

Note.—(1) The figures given in this table are based on a rough investigation made in Bombay Gujarat in connection with the recent Banking Enquiry.

(2) No details are given under heads 2 and 3 presumably because those sources were not investigated.

TABLE III.

Progress Register.

.....Village.....Taluk.....District for the year 1929-30.

(A) RECORD OF PROGRESS IN INCOME (1).

Year.	Total Income of Village.	Number of Families.	Average Income per Family.	Total Village Population.	Income per head of population.	Remarks.
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
1928-29 ..	58,795	105	563.8	515	75.2	
1929-30 ..	52,880	111	534.3	510	79	
1930-31 ..	53,125	117	566.6	581	91.9	
1931-32 ..						
1932-33 ..						

(B) RECORD OF PROGRESS IN EDUCATION, VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND HOME DISCIPLINE.

Particulars.	Number	Remarks. (2)
Number of Families		
Population of Village—		
Males		
Females		
Children		
Persons able to read and write—		
Males		
Females		
Total		
Children of School Age—		
Males		
Females		
Total		
Children actually attending School—		
Males		
Females		
Total		
Adults attending educational institutions—		
Males		
Females		
Total		
Number of Families giving attention to training in Home Discipline		
Number of Persons undergoing training in one Occupation or Profession—		
Men		
Women		
Boys		
Girls		

Note.—(1) The figures entered in this table are merely illustrative.

(2) Provision made for general education and vocational training, etc., should be entered in the "Remarks" column.